

THE THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



FOR THE YEAR 1965

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1965.

Dr. J. R. F. Popplewell continued as District Medical Officer until March 31st, 1965. I took up this appointment on April 1st 1965, when I began my duties as Assistant Medical Officer to the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers of the Council for their help and advice.

A special report of the Public Health Officer, Mr. E. Little is appended.

I am.

Your obedient Servant

J. B. Stafford

Medical Officer of Health

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J. R. F. Popplewell, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G.,
(until March 31st, 1965)

J. B. Stafford, L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(from April 1st, 1965)

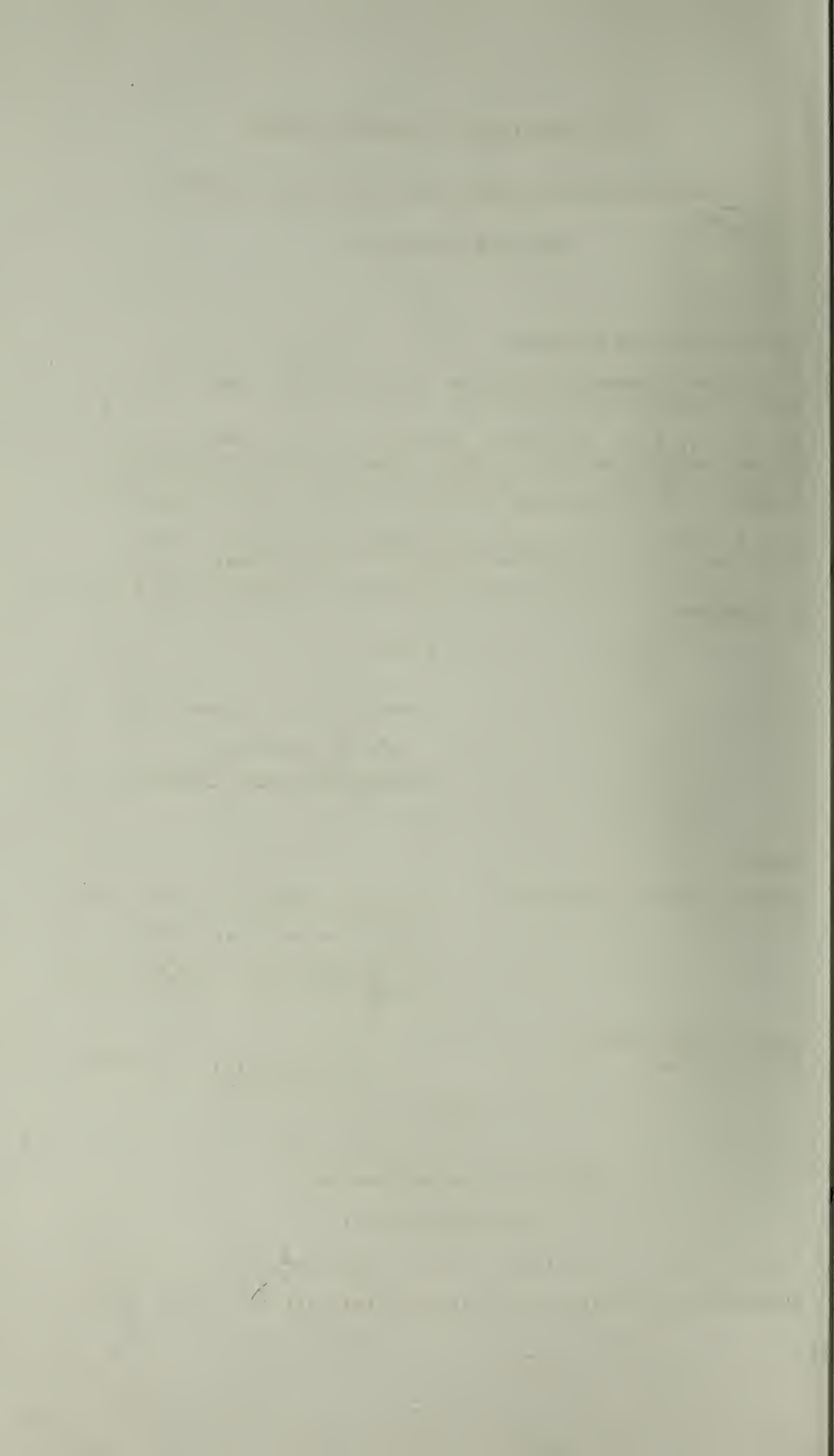
Surveyor and Public
Health Officer

E. T. Little, F.F.S., M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

VITAL STATISTICS

Area..... 21,796
Population..... 2,570



STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Area | 21,796 acres |
| Population (estimate mid-1965) | 2,570 |
| Number of inhabited houses (April, 1965) | 767 |
| Rateable Value (April 1965) | £52,342 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate (April 1965) | £199,12s. 7d. (say £200). |

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| <u>Extract from vital statistics for the year</u> | <u>England & Wales</u> |
|---|----------------------------|

| | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|-------|----|-------|
| | | M. | F. | Total |
| <u>Live Births</u> | Leg: | 24 | 23 | 47 |
| | Illeg: | - | 2 | 2 |
| | | <hr/> | | |
| | Total | 24 | 25 | 49 |
| | | <hr/> | | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population | 19.0 | 18.1 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births | 4.0 |
|--|-----|

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|-------|---|
| <u>Stillbirths</u> | Males 1 | Females 0 | Total | 1 |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|-------|---|

| | | |
|--|------|------|
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths | 20.0 | 15.7 |
|--|------|------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| <u>Total live and stillbirths</u> | 50 |
|-----------------------------------|----|

| | |
|--|-----|
| <u>Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)</u> | NIL |
|--|-----|

| | |
|--|-----|
| <u>Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)</u> | NIL |
|--|-----|

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| <u>Infant Mortality Rate</u> | 0.0 | 19.0 |
|------------------------------|-----|------|

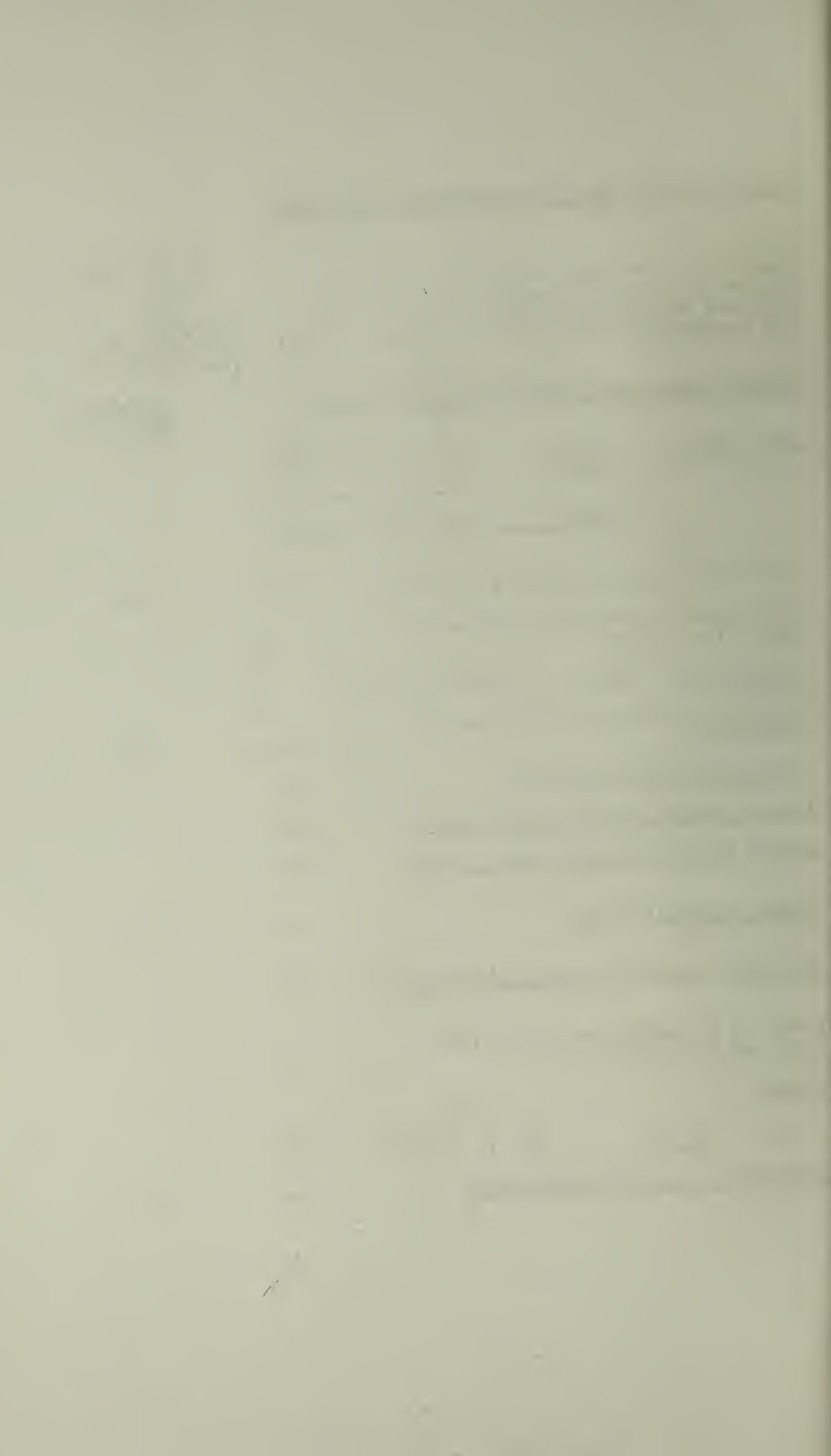
| | |
|---|-----|
| <u>Maternal Deaths (including abortion)</u> | NIL |
|---|-----|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and stillbirths | 0.0 |
|--|-----|

DEATHS

| | | | | |
|---------|----|---|-------|----|
| Males | 12 | } | Total | 24 |
| Females | 12 | | | |

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| <u>Death Rate per 1,000 population</u> | 9.3 | 11.5 |
|--|-----|------|



COMMENTS

Population

The estimated population for mid-1965, according to the Registrar-General, was 2,570, an increase of 50 on the previous year's estimate.

Statistics

The birth rate is again slightly higher than that of the country as a whole, bring 19.0 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 18.1 for England and Wales. In 1964 our rate was 19.4 per 1,000.

The illegitimate birth rate was 4 per cent of the total live births, compared with the high rate of 10.2 per cent in 1964.

There was one stillbirth, but no deaths in infants under one year of age. For the past two years, therefore, our infant mortality rate had been NIL, compared with a rate of 19.0 for England and Wales in 1965.

The death rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of the population is again lower than the rate for England and Wales, which was 11.5. In 1964 our rate was 5.9 per 1,000.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| 24 cases of Measles:- | | | | | | | | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|---------------|
| Under 1 year | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| 1 year | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| 2 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 2 |
| 3 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 3 |
| 4 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 3 |
| 5 - 9 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 |
| 10 - 14 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| | | | | | | | | <hr/> | |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | | | | | | | | <u>12</u> | <u>12</u> |

| <u>5 Cases of Whooping Cough</u> | | | | | | | | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|---------------|
| Under 1 year | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| 1 year | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | - |
| 2 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | 1 |
| 3 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| 4 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| 5 - 9 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | - |
| 10 - 14 years | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | - | - |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | | | | | | | | 3 | 2 |

Laboratory Facilities

Ambulance Service

Nursing in the Home

Clinics

Immunisation and Vaccination

Inspection and Supervision of Food

The facilities of all the above services are the same as in previous years.



Council Offices,

Thorney,

Peterborough.

June, 1966.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Sir,

I have the honour to present my 11th Annual Report in respect of the year 1965 as follows:-

NUISANCES

9 Nuisances were investigated as follows:-

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|---|
| Premises (disrepair) | | | | 5 |
| Drainage | | | | 3 |
| Offensive accumulations | | | | 1 |

7 of the above Nuisances were abated as a result of informal action. In the remaining 2 cases work is in progress which will result in abatement.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS. (see also Appendix 1)

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of factories with mechanical power | 6 |
| Number of factories without mechanical power..... | 1 |
| Number of inspections..... | 8 |

REFUSE COLLECTION

Collection of household refuse is carried out under private contract. Tipping is carried out by arrangement at the Peterborough Corporation controlled tip outside the district. No complaints have been received during the year.

PETROLEUM ACTS. 1928, etc.

1 new licence was issued during the year.
39 current annual licences are now in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at 39 premises, a decrease of four since last year.
14 inspections were carried out during the year.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary was not used during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Applications were received for Standard Improvement Grants in respect of 20 properties and grants were awarded in each case. This represents an increase of 40% over 1964.

Grants paid during the year totalled £3, 446 in respect of the following amenities provided:-

Baths 20, Wash Basins 20, Hot Water supply 20, W.C.'s 20 and Food Stores 12.

CARAVANS

Under the terms of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, inspections were made of all existing sites. Three sites for single caravans are now licenced under the act, prior planning approval having been received. There are no multiple sites in the area of this Authority. No applications in respect of new sites were received during the year.

WATER SUPPLY

Bulk water consumption for the district was 35.2 million gallons or 91, 713 gallons per day equivalent to 37 gallons per head per day in respect of the population served.

On chemical analysis, a sample of water taken in April, 1965, was shown to contain per million parts:-

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|
| Total solids dried at 180 deg. C. | ... | ... | ... | 482.00 |
| Suspended matter | ... | ... | ... | Absent |
| Cholorides as Chlorine | ... | ... | ... | 31.95 |
| Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate | ... | ... | ... | 0.21 |
| Oxidises Nitrogen as Nitrite | ... | ... | ... | 0.00 |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen | ... | ... | ... | 0.080 |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen | ... | ... | ... | 0.008 |
| Temporary Hardness | ... | ... | ... | 238.00 |
| Permanent Hardness | ... | ... | ... | 106.00 |
| Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27 deg. F. from N/80 KMnO ₄ | ... | ... | ... | 0.04 |
| pH value | ... | ... | ... | 7.1 |
| Appearance | ... | ... | ... | Clear and bright. |
| Odour | ... | ... | ... | Normal |
| Taste and Colour | ... | ... | ... | Normal |
| Heavy Metals | ... | ... | ... | Absent |
| Free Chlorine | ... | ... | ... | 0.12 |
| No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 deg. C. in 72 hrs. | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 deg. C. in 24 hrs. | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| No. of colonies developping per ml. on agar at 37 deg. C. in 48 hrs. | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Faecal coli count per 100 ml. at 44 deg. C. in 48 hrs. | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| Bacillus Coli (presumptive) absent in | ... | ... | ... | 100 mls. |

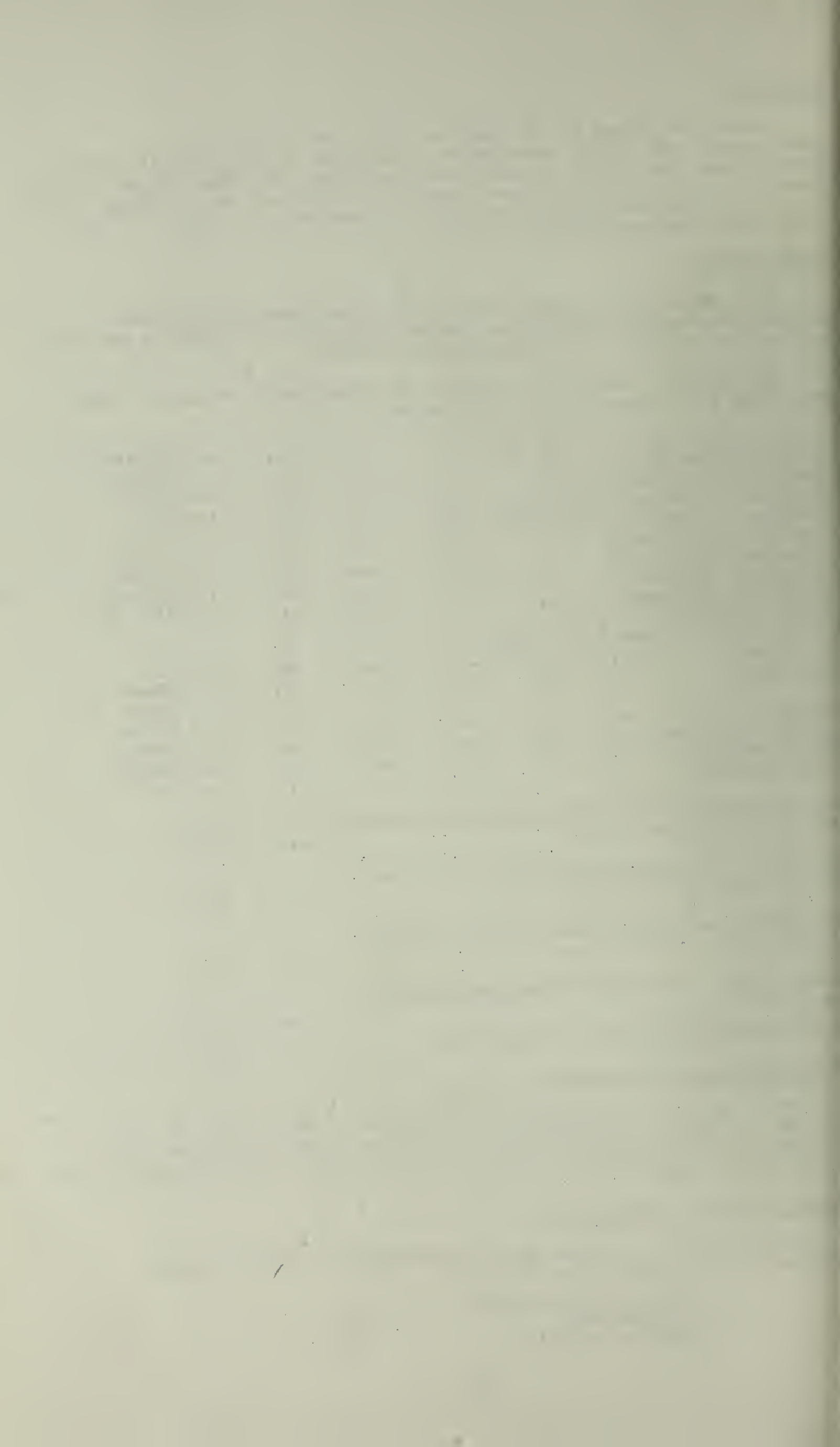
Observations on the Analysis

This sample of water falls into Class 1 (excellent) of the Ministry of Health's classification of piped water supplies and is also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

Bacteriological examination

Three samples of water were submitted for bacteriological xamination with results as follows:-

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Highly satisfactory | 3 |
| Satisfactory | Nil |
| Unsatisfactory | Nil. |



WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Works

No. of new connections provided:-

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Domestic | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Metered | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| | | | | | 1 |
| Air-valves repaired | ... | ... | ... | | 2 |
| New sluice valves fixed | | ... | ... | | Nil |
| Sluice valves repaired | ... | ... | ... | | 7 |
| New fire hydrants fixed | | ... | ... | | Nil |
| Fire hydrants repaired | ... | ... | ... | | 2 |
| Consumer meters repaired | | ... | ... | | 11 |
| Existing services repaired or renewed. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Stop-cocks repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Burst mains repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Marker posts replaced | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

Work on the provision of the new sewage disposal plant for the Thorney village was delayed because of the protracted negotiations for the aquisition of the site. Because of the increasing urgency of the situation it is to be hoped that this problem can be solved without further delay, and agreement is now expected early in 1966.

A scheme has now been approved for the replacement of the existing out-dated pumps at two sewage pumping stations, and in the case of Wisbech Road station, the super-structure will also be re-built to provide a more modern and efficient lay-out.

DISINFESTATION

No call was made on this service during the year.

FOOD PREMISES

All food premises were inspected during the year.

Food Inspection

1-2lb. tin of corned beef was condemned due to rust and "pinholing" of the tin.

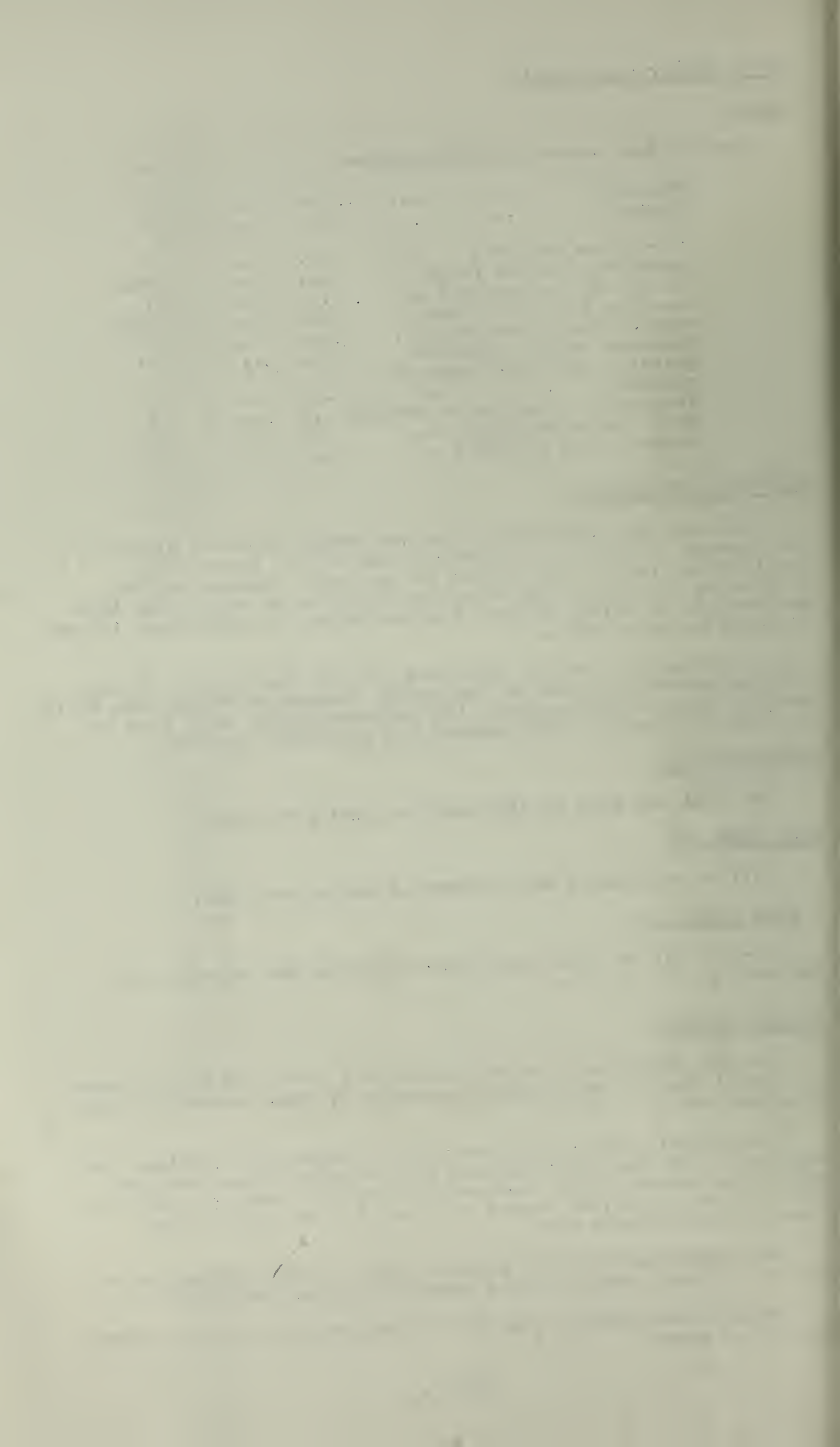
COUNCIL HOUSING

No new houses were erected during the year, and whilst there is a small list of applicants, a re-view of these showed no case of urgent need.

The Council may however consider it prudent to consider the acquisition of some building land for possible future use, as continuing demand within easy reach of Peterborough is likely to lead to increasing land values and shortage of sites in the permitted development area.

The improvement of all pre-war Council owned properties to provide standard amenities was completed during the year.

Repairs were carried out in 135 properties by direct labour during the year.



HOUSING GENERAL

2 private houses were erected during the year.
1 demolition Order was made, and the occupier re-housed.

BUILDING BYLAWS

67 sets of plans were deposited in respect of 70 new buildings and/or works. 186 visits and inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Nuisances | 11 |
| Water Supply | 102 |
| Factories & Workshops | 8 |
| Foodshops | 19 |
| Canteens | 2 |
| Mobile Vans | 3 |
| Drainage & Sewerage | 67 |
| Drainage (new work) | 38 |
| Caravans | 4 |
| Refuse Collection | 3 |
| Sewage Works | 36 |
| Sewage Pumping Stations | 28 |
| Street Numbering | 7 |
| Road Safety | 2 |
| Rodent Control | 19 |
| Improvements Grants | 51 |
| Committees &c. | 15 |
| New Buildings | 91 |
| Planning | 8 |
| Council Houses | 42 |
| Miscellaneous | 27 |
| Petroleum Acts | 14 |

Number of interviews

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Office | 119 |
| Private residence | 63 |

STAFF

Following discussions between this Authority and the Peterborough R.D.C. subsequent to the resignation of the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector to Peterborough R.D.C. in June, 1965, I was appointed as Surveyor, Public Health Inspector and Water Engineer jointly to both Authorities. The Technical Assistant at Peterborough Rural District Council was also appointed jointly to both Authorities in that capacity. Part-time clerical assistance has also been provided at Thorney.

The arrangement appears to be working well, but the continuing ability to properly discharge statutory functions, etc., in the future with existing staff, will obviously be dependant upon the growth of the two districts in the light of the proposed expansion of Peterborough City and its environs.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to convey my thanks for the co-operation which I have received during the year from members of the Council and staff in all the above work.

E. T. LITTLE

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

A P P E N D I X 1

Factories Act. 1961

| PREMISES | No. on Register | No. of Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Factories in which Section 7, is enforced. | 6 | 7 | - | - |
| Other Premises | - | - | - | - |
| | 7 | 8 | - | - |

NO. OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

| Particulars | Found | Remidied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | Prosecutions |
|----------------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Want of Cleanliness | - | - | - | - | - |
| Over Crowding | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable Temperature | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate Ventilation | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective Floor Drainage | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences | | | | | |
| a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - |
| b) Unsuitable | - | - | - | - | - |
| c) Not separate for Sexes. | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Offences | - | - | - | - | - |

